Employment programmes in Tenth Plan

2320. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the action proposed to be taken to focus on employment programmes while finalising the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) what is the annual growth rate targeted during the plan; and

(c) what are the other details of Tenth Plan development strategy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The Tenth Five Year Plan is scheduled to be placed for approval by National Development Council on 21st December 2002.

Solution of unemployment problem

2321. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up an employment mission involving both the corporate and non-corporate sector to find a solution to the unemployment problem of the country;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether any fresh steps have been taken by Government to create gainful and growth oriented employment opportunities during the Tenth Plan period keeping in view large scale unemployment all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Planning Commission constituted a Special Group on targeting ten million employment opportunities per year over the Tenth Plan Period to suggest strategies and programmes in the Tenth Plan for creating employment opportunities for 10 million people a year. The Special Group has identified the labour intensive sectors, which should be developed to create 10 million employment opportunities per year in the Tenth Plan. These sectors include agriculture, watershed

development, on farm water management, small and medium industries, information technology, education and health services.

Economic package for Bihar

2322. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared a economic package for growth and development of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when it is likely to be prepared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The High Level Committee on Development and Reform Facility (Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana) in its meeting held on 28th August 2002 approved in principle the Special Plan for Bihar which included improvement in availability of electricity in Bihar by strengthening the Sub-transmission system, improving rural connectivity, harnessing of ground water resources, watershed development, horticulture, dairy development, etc.

Sasan Canal System

2323. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for investment clearance of the project "Improvement to Sasan Canal System" in Sambalpur district of Orissa, is pending with the Planning Commission;

(b) whether the project, which involves modernisation etc., has been cleared at the 74th TAC held on the 20th September, 2000, at an estimated cost of Rs. 34.92 crores; and

(c) if so, the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The project "Improvement to Sason Canal System (excluding Paramanpur Distributary) of Hirakud